



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY
WASHINGTON D.C., 20460

OFFICE OF
PREVENTION, PESTICIDES AND
TOXIC SUBSTANCES

FEB 19, 2003

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: MOA 2002 End of Year Reports

FROM: Stephen L. Johnson /s/
Assistant Administrator

TO: Regional Division Directors I-X

Thank you for your recent submission of the FY 2002 MOA Reports. The reports highlight the collaboration between OPPTS Headquarters' Program Offices and the Regions. This collaboration has produced significant results in many key programs ranging from lead and PCB's to the Strategic Agriculture Initiative and homeland security. Your input has been invaluable as we have worked together to implement OPPTS programs and accomplish key objectives. (See Attached Highlights) While much progress has been made, the reports indicate that challenges remain in areas such as National Program Chemicals, worker safety and water quality.

As we discussed at our last Regional Division Directors' meeting in Philadelphia, consultation with and engaging Regions in the decision-making process is critical to our success in meeting key objectives. We will work closely with you to accomplish all of our national priorities, with a special emphasis on three key areas where your leadership and performance are critically important. These three areas include (1) FQPA/ Strategic Agriculture Initiative (SAI) [including Worker Safety & Water Quality] (2) National Program Chemicals [including lead, PCB's, mercury, dioxin, asbestos and other chemicals of concern] and (3) Pollution Prevention Integration. These top three 2004 priorities are consistent with our MOA priorities for 2003, with a keen focus on FQPA implementation, meeting the challenges of National Program Chemicals like lead and asbestos and the integration of Pollution Prevention into core Regional program Operations. I have included a copy of my presentation at the recent AA/RA 2004 Regional Priorities Meeting which provides more information about the 2004 Regional Performance Priorities. (Attachment)

Given that we plan to roll-over our 2003 MOA Priorities to 2004, based on Agency guidance while preparing for a more fundamental restructuring for 2005, we will continue under the MOA

Guidance issued for 2002/03. Where areas need to be refocused or adjusted, the Headquarters' Program offices will provide supplemental guidance to the Regions. Thank you for your continued hard work on behalf of our programs. OPPTS remains committed to the MOA process with the regions and believes that close collaboration with our Regional partners will strengthen our field activities and help us to accomplish our national priorities. I look forward to seeing you at our next Regional Division Directors' Meeting in Denver.

Attachments